

Boston, March 7, 1848,

My dear Mr. Webb,

I herewith forward to your care a box, containing mainly copies of the 16th Annual Report of the Massachusetts Antislavery Society for our friends scattered through your country. We should be glad to save you the trouble, were it possible, - but somebody must be troubled, or taxed, in the matter, and I know of no one who will more cheerfully bear it than yourself.

Whatever pecuniary charges you are put to, you will of course keep account of, and take the proper steps to be re-imbursed by us.

For convenience of packing, I have ^{sent} ~~left~~ separately parcels (in several instances) destined to one place or neighbourhood. These, will you be kind enough to make up into one, and forward accordingly? A little parcel for Bridgewater may be sent in bundle to Mr. Estlin at Bristol, & so on.

I trust the box containing copies of Liberty Bell, & of Bazaar Gazette, has reached you before this time. You will not fail to have seen the signs of desperate

hurry in the packing. We were very much delayed in waiting for the Bazaar Gazette, and at last had to fold them up, and stow them in the box, almost any way. We hope to hear soon of ~~its~~ ^{the} safe arrival of that box; and, in due season, of this present one, which I shall probably send by Train's packet-ship, "Ocean Monarch" — a great name, and a good ship, nevertheless.

Will our good English, Scotch & Irish friends be for putting us under the ban, for calling the "Anti-Sabbath Convention"? I see, every week, new reason to be convinced of the expediency and wisdom of that call. The priesthood, and the sectarian journals, are in a perfect storm of fury & rage. It is most evident they feel that their craft is in danger. H. C. Wright has been attacked for his "Outrageous Perversions of John Calvin's views" on the Sabbath.

He will of course defend himself; though I think it probable ^{that} his extracts from Calvin (in the little tract which he published in Scotland, and which he has just re-published here) do not

fully exhibit Calvin's views on the subject. It is certain enough that Calvin's views were far enough from being like those which modern Calvinists hold, and which they preach & strive to enforce in such a heavenly spirit!!

The little volumes of W. W. Brown's Narrative, herewith sent, are sent by his particular desire. He feels allied to you Transatlantic Abolitionists by close ties of affection and respect. I have no doubt his grateful offerings will be acceptable among you.

The Antislavery Cause, I believe, is going steadily onward. We have never had plain Antislavery so talked in Congress as during this winter. Never did ~~it~~ ^{the question} so enter into all political arrangements & machinations as now. It is indeed true that the political parties were never so seemingly bent upon cringing to the Slave Power as now. Zachary Taylor, the bloody leader in the Mexican War, and the first man to advise the employment of Cuban bloodhounds in the War against the Florida Indians, is almost sure to be the Whig Candidate for President. Of what stamp the Democratic Candidate will be, we need no Ghost to tell us. The most
hardened,

unscrupulous, & slavish politician to be found in
their ranks, he will be their candidate. The
so-called Liberty Party - Heaven save the mark! -
have already attached themselves to the skirts of a man
who never has pretended to be an Abolitionist! who
has indeed done well as a Democrat, and as a
Seceder from the Democratic ranks rather than so for the
Annexation of Texas, and the Extension of Slavery. But
his Antislavery has this extent - no more.

John Quincy Adams is dead, as you will have
learned before you get this. And the Nation is almost
crazy with the enthusiasm of its admiration, both of the
man, and of the place and manner of his death!

He has done great service for many good causes. He
has manfully fought the South on many occasions.
But he is not entitled to the name of an Abolitionist,
save as a general respect for the movement, and a
care not to abuse its friends, but occasionally to encourage
them a little, may entitle him thereto.

I would fain say more - but time does not
allow it. Life is short, it is said, - I am sure days
and weeks are. I am not a very systematic worker,
and it seems as if work multiplied as the time for doing
it diminishes, & flies away more & more swiftly. With
kind & respectful remembrances to your brothers, to Mr. Allen & Mr.
Hauptman, I am, Very truly, Yours, Samuel May Jr.

ms. B.1.6 v.3, p.46